LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1.   (Original) A method for writing data in a tape drive, the method comprising:

allocating a blank area for transpose writing on a magnetic tape;

writing a first plurality of data sets on the magnetic tape adjacent to the blank area, wherein the tape drive maintains full operating speed during intervals between writing successive data sets, resulting in spaces between the data sets; and

repositioning the tape at a specified interval and writing a transposed data block to the allocated blank area, wherein the transposed data block contains the same content as the first plurality of data sets.

2.   (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising allocating a second blank area for transpose writing adjacent to the transposed data block, wherein allocating the second blank area may include erasing a portion of the first plurality of data sets.

3.   (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the data written to both the first plurality of data sets and the transposed data block is stored in a data buffer.

4.   (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the size of the blank area allocated for transpose writing is determined by the size of the data buffer and a specified data transfer rate.

5.   (Original) A tape drive, comprising:

a means for allocating a blank area for transpose writing on a magnetic tape;

a write head for writing a first plurality of data sets on the magnetic tape adjacent to the blank area, wherein the tape drive maintains full operating speed during intervals between writing successive data sets, resulting in spaces between the data sets; and

a means for repositioning the tape at a specified interval and writing a transposed data block to the allocated blank area, wherein the transposed data block contains the same content as the first plurality of data sets.

6.   (Original) The tape drive according to claim 5, further comprising a means for allocating a second blank area for transpose writing adjacent to the transposed data block, wherein allocating the second blank area may include erasing a portion of the first plurality of data sets.

7.   (Original) The tape drive according to claim 5, wherein the data written to both the first plurality of data sets and the transposed data block is stored in a data buffer.

8.   (Original) The tape drive according to claim 7, wherein the size of the blank area allocated for transpose writing is determined by the size of the data buffer and a specified data transfer rate.

9.   (Original) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for writing data in a tape drive, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for allocating a blank area for transpose writing on a magnetic tape;

second instructions for writing a first plurality of data sets on the magnetic tape adjacent to the blank area, wherein the tape drive maintains full operating speed during intervals between writing successive data sets, resulting in spaces between the data sets; and

third instructions for repositioning the tape at a specified interval and writing a transposed data block to the allocated blank area, wherein the transposed data block contains the same content as the first plurality of data sets.

10.   (Original) The computer program product according to claim 9, further comprising fourth instructions for allocating a second blank area for transpose writing adjacent to the transposed data block, wherein allocating the second blank area may include erasing a portion of the first plurality of data sets.

11.   (Original) The computer program product according to claim 9, wherein the data written to both the first plurality of data sets and the transposed data block is stored in a data buffer.

12.   (Original) The computer program product according to claim 11, wherein the size of the blank area allocated for transpose writing is determined by the size of the data buffer and a specified data transfer rate.